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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | 10/611,587 | IZUMIYAMA, TORU | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------|--|--|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | Examiner | Art Unit | | | | |
| | Zhiyu Lu | 2618 | | | | |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply | | | | | | |
| A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). | | | | | | |
| Status | | | | | | |
| 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 c 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This 3) Since this application is in condition for allowed closed in accordance with the practice under | s action is non-final. ance except for formal matters, pro | | | | | |
| Disposition of Claims | | | | | | |
| 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdra 5) ☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected. 7) ☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) ☐ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/ | awn from consideration. | | | | | |
| Application Papers | | | | | | |
| 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. | | | | | | |
| Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 | | | | | | |
| 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. | | | | | | |
| Attachment(s) 1) ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) ☑ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) ☑ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 | 4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail D 5) Notice of Informal F 6) Other: | | | | | |

Application/Control Number: 10/611,587 Page 2

Art Unit: 2618

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 10 and 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8, 10-11, 17-20, 22-24 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The phrase "about equal to" is indefinite.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 3. Claims 1, 3-4, 6-8, 10, 12-13, 15, 17-21, and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katou et al. (JP08-191256) in view of Kennedy (US Patent#5140700).

 Regarding claim 1, Katou et al. teach a transmission-and-receiving switching circuit comprising:

Art Unit: 2618

a signal input-and-output end (P3 of Fig. 2) to which an antenna is connected (paragraph 0042);

a transmission circuit connected to the signal input-and-output end (P2 of Fig. 2) through a first switching diode (D3 of Fig. 2), the transmission circuit configured to output a transmission signal (paragraph 0042);

a receiving circuit connected to the signal input-and-output end (P1 of Fig. 2) through a second switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2), the receiving circuit configured to receive a receiving signal (paragraph 0042);

inductor elements (2c-2d of Fig. 2) for feeding bias voltages to the first switching diode and the second switching diode, wherein in the first switching diode and the second switching diode are switched to operating states opposite to each other by the bias voltages, the operating states being on and off; and

a first resonant circuit contains a first capacitor element (3b of Fig. 2) coupled with the inductor element (2b of Fig. 2) for feeding the first switching diode (D3 of Fig. 2), the first resonant circuit at least series resonating between the first switching diode and ground (Fig. 4, paragraph 65).

Katou et al. do not expressly disclose the limitation of a series resonant frequency of the first resonant circuit is about equal to a frequency of a signal other than the transmission signal. However, Katou et al. disclose that a series resonant frequency of the first resonant circuit may be equal to a frequency of the transmission signal (paragraph 0036), which makes it capable of may not be the same as the transmission signal.

Art Unit: 2618

But, Katou et al. do not expressly disclose wherein the first resonant circuit prevents the transmission signal from attenuating.

Kennedy teaches setting resonant circuit to a frequency other than the transmission signal to prevent transmission signal from attenuating (column 1 lines 62-66).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate resonating at a frequency other than the transmission signal to prevent transmission signal from attenuating taught by Kennedy into the transmission-and-receiving switching circuit of Katou et al. into prevent transmission signal from attenuating.

Regarding claim 10, Katou et al. teach a transmission-and-receiving switching circuit comprising:

a pair of signal input-and-output ends (P3-P4 of Fig. 2), an antenna connected to one of the pair of signal input-and-output ends (paragraph 0042);

a transmission circuit (P2 of Fig. 2) connected to the one (P3 of Fig. 2) of the pair of signal input-and-output ends through a first switching diode (D3 of Fig. 2) and to the other (P4 of Fig. 2) of the pair of signal input-and-output ends through a second switching diode (D4 of Fig. 2), the transmission circuit configured to output a transmission signal of a transmission frequency (paragraph 0042);

a receiving circuit (P1 of Fig. 2) connected to the one (P3 of Fig. 2) of the pair of signal input-and-output ends through a third switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2) and to the other (P4 of Fig. 2) of the pair of signal input-and-output ends through a forth switching diode (D2

Art Unit: 2618

of Fig. 2), the receiving circuit configured to receive a receiving signal of a receiving frequency (paragraph 0042);

an inductor element (2c/2d of Fig. 2) connected between each switching diode and each of a pair of voltage feeding points;

a first resonant circuit that contains a first capacitor element (3b of Fig. 2) connected between ground and a first of the inductor elements (2b of Fig. 2) and a second resonant circuit that contains a second capacitor element (3a of Fig. 2) connected between ground and a second of the inductor elements (2a of Fig. 2), wherein the first (D3 of Fig. 2) and fourth (D2 of Fig. 2) switching diodes operate in opposite operating states from the second (D1 of Fig. 2) and third (D4 of Fig. 2) switching diodes; and

Katou et al. do not expressly disclose the limitation of a series resonant frequency of the first resonant circuit is about equal to a frequency of a signal other than one of the receiving and transmission signals.

However, Katou et al. disclose that a series resonant frequency of the first resonant circuit may be equal to a frequency of one of the receiving and transmission signals (paragraph 0036), which makes it capable of may not be the same as one of the receiving and transmission signals.

But, Katou et al. do not expressly disclose wherein the first resonant circuit prevents one of

Kennedy teaches setting resonant circuit to a frequency other than the transmission signal to prevent transmission signal from attenuating (column 1 lines 62-66).

receiving and transmission signals from attenuating.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate resonating at a frequency other than the transmission signal to prevent

Art Unit: 2618

transmission signal from attenuating taught by Kennedy into the transmission-and-receiving switching circuit of Katou et al. into prevent transmission signal from attenuating.

Regarding claim 20, Katou et al. teach a method of receiving and transmitting signals, the method comprising:

transmitting a transmission signal (P2 of Fig. 2) to a signal input-and-output end (P3 of Fig. 2) through a first switching diode (D3 of Fig. 2);

receiving a receiving signal (P1 of Fig. 2) from the signal input-and-output end (P3 of Fig. 2) through a second switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2);

feeding bias voltage to the first switching diode and the second switching diode (paragraphs 0051-0052);

switching the first switching diode (D3 of Fig. 2) and the second switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2) to opposing operating states via the bias voltages (paragraphs 0051-0052); and coupling a first series resonant circuit (2b, 3b of Fig. 2) between the first switching diode (D3 of Fig. 2) and ground.

Katou et al. do not expressly disclose the limitation of the first series resonant circuit having a first series resonant frequency about equal to a frequency of a signal other than the transmission signal.

However, Katou et al. disclose that a series resonant frequency of the first resonant circuit may be equal to a frequency of the transmission signal (paragraph 0036), which makes it capable of may not be the same as one of the transmission signal.

Art Unit: 2618

But, Katou et al. do not expressly disclose wherein the first resonant circuit prevents the transmission signal from attenuating.

Kennedy teaches setting resonant circuit to a frequency other than the transmission signal to prevent transmission signal from attenuating (column 1 lines 62-66).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate resonating at a frequency other than the transmission signal to prevent transmission signal from attenuating taught by Kennedy into the transmission-and-receiving switching circuit of Katou et al. into prevent transmission signal from attenuating.

Regarding claim 3, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 1.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of the first resonant circuit (2b and 3b of Fig. 2) is provided between ground and a connection point (D of Fig. 2) of the first switching diode (D3 of Fig. 2) and the transmission circuit (P2 of Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 4, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 1.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of the first resonant circuit is formed of a series-parallel resonant circuit (Figs. 3, 4, or 5 with 2b and 3b of Fig. 2) and a parallel resonant frequency of the series-parallel resonant circuit is about equal to a frequency of the transmission signal (paragraphs 0036, 0067).

Regarding claim 6, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 1.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of further comprising a second resonant circuit comprising a second capacitor element (3a of Fig. 2) coupled with the inductor element (2a of Fig. 2) for feeding the second switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2) for at least series resonating between the second switching diode and ground.

Katou et al. do not expressly disclose the limitation of a series resonant frequency of the second resonant circuit is about equal to a frequency of a signal other than the receiving signal.

However, Katou et al. disclose that a series resonant frequency of the second resonant circuit may be equal to a frequency of the receiving signal (paragraph 0036), which makes it capable of may not be the same as the receiving signal.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the transmission-and-receiving switching circuit of Katou et al. into having a resonant frequency different from the receiving signal, in order to fit application usage.

Regarding claim 7, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 6.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of the second resonant circuit is provided between ground and a connection point (A of Fig. 2) of the second switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2) and the receiving circuit (P1 of Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 8, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 6.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of the second resonant circuit is formed of a series-parallel resonant circuit (Figs. 3, 4, or 5 with 2a and 3a of Fig. 2) and a parallel resonant frequency of the

Art Unit: 2618

series-parallel resonant circuit is about equal to a frequency of the receiving signal (paragraphs 0036, 0067).

Regarding claim 12, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 10.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of a first connection point (D pf Fig. 2) connects the first switching diode (D3 of Fig. 2), the second switching diodes (D4 of Fig. 2) and the transmission circuit (P2 of Fig. 2), and the first resonant circuit is provided between ground and the first connection point (D of Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 13, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 12.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of a second connection point (A of Fig. 2) connects the third switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2), the fourth switching diode (D2 of Fig. 2) and the receiving circuit (P1 of Fig. 2), and the second resonant circuit (2b, 3b of Fig. 2) is provided between ground and the second connection point (A of Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 15, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 10.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of a first connection point (A of Fig. 2) connects the third switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2), the fourth switching diode (D2 of Fig. 2) and the receiving circuit (P1 of Fig. 2), and the first resonant circuit (2a, 3a of Fig. 2) is provided between ground and the first connection point (A of Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 17, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 12.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of the first resonant circuit is formed of a series-parallel resonant circuit (Figs. 3, 4, or 5 with 2a and 3a of Fig. 2) and a parallel resonant frequency of the series-parallel resonant circuit is about equal to a frequency of the receiving signal (paragraphs 0036, 0067).

Regarding claim 18, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 15.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of the first resonant circuit is formed of a series-parallel resonant circuit (Figs. 3, 4, or 5 with 2a and 3a of Fig. 2) and a parallel resonant frequency of the series-parallel resonant circuit is about equal to a frequency of the receiving signal (paragraphs 0036, 0067).

Regarding claim 19, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 13.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of the first and second resonant circuits each comprise a series-parallel resonant circuit (Figs. 3, 4, or 5 with 2a and 3a of Fig. 2) with a parallel resonant frequency of about equal to the receiving frequency and the transmission frequency, respectively (paragraphs 0036, 0067).

Regarding claim 21, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 20.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of further comprising forming the first series resonant circuit from an inductor (2b of Fig. 2) in series with a first capacitor (3b of Fig. 2), connecting the first capacitor to ground and the inductor to the first switching diode (D3 of Fig. 2).

Art Unit: 2618

Regarding claim 24, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 20.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of further comprising coupling a second resonant circuit (2a, 3a of Fig. 2) between the second switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2) and ground.

Katou et al. do not expressly disclose the limitation of a second series resonant frequency of the second resonance frequency of about equal to a frequency of a signal other than the receiving signal.

However, Katou et al. disclose that a series resonant frequency of the second resonant circuit may be equal to a frequency of the receiving signal (paragraph 0036), which makes it capable of may not be the same as the receiving signal.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Katou et al. into having a resonant frequency different from the receiving signal, in order to fit application usage.

Regarding claim 25, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 24.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of further comprising forming the second series resonant circuit from an inductor in series with a first capacitor, connecting the first capacitor (3a of Fig. 2) to ground and the inductor (2a of Fig. 2) to the second switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2).

4. Claims 5 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katou et al. (JP08-191256) in view of Kennedy (US Patent#5140700) and Satoh et al. (US2002/0137471). Regarding claim 5, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 1.

Art Unit: 2618

But, Katou et al. and Kennedy do not expressly disclose the limitation of the first capacitor element and the inductor element for feeding the first switching diode are formed of lumped-constant-type circuit components.

Satoh et al. teach the limitation of using lumped-constant-type circuit components instead of distributed constant components (paragraph 0043).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the transmission-and-receiving switching circuit of Katou et al. and Kennedy with lumped-constant-type circuit components taught by Satoh et al., so that the circuit components can be combined, simplified, and dimension reduced.

Regarding claim 9, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 6.

But, Katou et al. and Kennedy do not expressly disclose the limitation of the second capacitor element and the inductor element for feeding the second switching diode are formed of lumped-constant-type circuit components.

Satoh et al. teach the limitation of using lumped-constant-type circuit components instead of distributed constant components (paragraph 0043).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the transmission-and-receiving switching circuit of Katou et al. and Kennedy with lumped-constant-type circuit components taught by Satoh et al., so that the circuit components can be combined, simplified, and dimension reduced.

5. Claims 2, 11, 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katou et al. (JP08-191256) in view of Kennedy (US Patent#5140700) and Khanna (US Patent#4649354).

Regarding claim 2, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 1.

But, Katou et al. and Kennedy do not expressly disclose the limitation of the series resonant frequency is about equal to a frequency of a local oscillation signal in the transmission circuit. Khanna teaches the limitation of the limitation of the resonant frequency is about equal to a frequency of a local oscillation signal in the switching circuit (column 1 lines 35-37, column 7 lines 30-39).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the resonant frequency in the transmission-and-receiving switching circuit of Katou et al. and Kennedy into a frequency equal to a local oscillation signal in the switching circuit taught by Khanna, in order to fit application usage.

Regarding claim 11, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 10.

But, Katou et al. and Kennedy do not expressly disclose the limitation of the series resonant frequency is about equal to a frequency of a local oscillation signal in one of the receiving and transmission circuits.

Khanna teaches the limitation of the limitation of the resonant frequency is about equal to a frequency of a local oscillation signal in the switching circuit (column 1 lines 35-37, column 7 lines 30-39).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the resonant frequency in the transmission-and-receiving switching circuit

of Katou et al. and Kennedy into a frequency equal to a local oscillation signal in the switching circuit taught by Khanna, in order to fit application usage.

Regarding claim 23, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 20.

Katou et al. and Kennedy do not expressly disclose the limitation of further comprising reducing local oscillation signals when transmitting the transmission signal by providing that the first series resonant frequency is about equal to a frequency of the local oscillation signal.

Khanna teaches the limitation of the limitation of the resonant frequency is about equal to a frequency of a local oscillation signal in the switching circuit (column 1 lines 35-37, column 7 lines 30-39).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the resonant frequency in the method of Katou et al. and Kennedy into a frequency equal to a local oscillation signal in the switching circuit taught by Khanna, in order to fit application usage.

6. Claims 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katou et al. (JP08-191256) in view of Kennedy (US Patent#5140700) Brand et al. (US Patent#5901057).

Regarding claim 14, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 12.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of a second connection point (F of Fig. 2) connects the first switching diode (D3 of Fig. 2), the third switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2) and a first of the pair of

Art Unit: 2618

signal input-and-output ends (P3 of Fig. 20), and an inductor (2c of Fig. 2) connects with the second connection point.

But, Katou et al. and Kennedy do not expressly disclose the limitation of the second resonant circuit is provided between ground and the second connection point.

Brand et al. teach the limitation of connecting a shunt capacitor to a series inductor to form a resonant circuit to improve power factor correction and reduce harmonic distortion (column 1 lines 46-55).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the transmission-and-receiving switching circuit of Katou et al. and Kennedy with connecting a shunt capacitor to a series inductor taught by Brand et al., in order to improve power factor correction and reduce harmonic distortion to fit application usage.

Regarding claim 16, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 15.

Katou et al. also teach the limitation of a second connection point (F of Fig. 2) connects the first switching diode (D3 of Fig. 2), the third switching diode (D1 of Fig. 2) and a first of the pair of signal input-and-output ends (P3 of Fig. 20), and an inductor (2c of Fig. 2) connects with the second connection point.

But, Katou et al. and Kennedy do not expressly disclose the limitation of the second resonant circuit is provided between ground and the second connection point.

Brand et al. teach the limitation of connecting a shunt capacitor to a series inductor to form a resonant circuit to improve power factor correction and reduce harmonic distortion (column 1 lines 46-55).

Application/Control Number: 10/611,587 Page 16

Art Unit: 2618

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the transmission-and-receiving switching circuit of Katou et al. and Kennedy with connecting a shunt capacitor to a series inductor taught by Brand et al., in order to improve power factor correction and reduce harmonic distortion to fit application usage.

7. Claims 22 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katou et al. (JP08-191256) in view of Kennedy (US Patent#5140700) and Newman, Jr. (US Patent#5224029).

Regarding claim 22, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 21.

But, Katou et al. and Kennedy do not expressly disclose the limitation of further comprising forming a parallel resonant circuit with the first series resonant circuit by connecting a second capacitor in parallel with the inductor, the parallel resonant circuit having a frequency of about equal to a frequency of the transmission signal.

Newman, Jr. teach the limitation of forming a parallel resonant circuit with the first series resonant circuit by connecting a second capacitor in parallel with the inductor (column 2 lines 22-38).

Katou et al. also disclose that the resonant frequency of the first resonant circuit may be equal to a frequency of the transmission signal (paragraph 0036).

Kennedy teaches having a series-parallel resonant circuit to coincide with the signal of interest (column 1 lines 33-46).

Art Unit: 2618

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate parallel resonant circuit into the method of Katou et al. and Kennedy, in order to reduce harmonic distortion and fit application usage.

Regarding claim 26, Katou et al. and Kennedy teach the limitation of claim 21.

But, Katou et al. and Kennedy do not expressly disclose the limitation of further comprising forming a parallel resonant circuit with the second series resonant circuit by connecting a second capacitor in parallel with the inductor, the parallel resonant circuit having a frequency of about equal to a frequency of the transmission signal.

Newman, Jr. teach the limitation of forming a parallel resonant circuit with the first series resonant circuit by connecting a second capacitor in parallel with the inductor (column 2 lines 22-38).

Katou et al. also disclose that the resonant frequency of the second resonant circuit may be equal to a frequency of the transmission signal (paragraph 0036).

Kennedy teaches having a series-parallel resonant circuit to coincide with the signal of interest (column 1 lines 33-46).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate parallel resonant circuit into the method of Katou et al. and Kennedy, in order to reduce harmonic distortion and fit application usage.

Art Unit: 2618

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zhiyu Lu whose telephone number is (571) 272-2837. The examiner can normally be reached on Weekdays: 9AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on (571) 272-7882. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number: 10/611,587 Page 19

Art Unit: 2618

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Zhiyu Lu June 28, 2006

> NAY MAUNG SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINED